

# American



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From the Transactions of the New York State Agricultural Society.  
**PRIZE ESSAY.**

ON THE PREPARATION AND USE OF MANURES.

By Willis Gaylord, of Otisco, N. Y.

(CONCLUDED.)

Gypsum is the third principal salt of lime which exerts a powerful influence on plants, and is one of the most valuable of all our mineral fertilizers. Much variety of opinion has been entertained respecting the manner in which it exerts its influence or produces its effects on plants; and these opinions can scarcely be said to be harmonized, even at the present time. Davy was inclined to consider it a direct food for the plant, as it is found, to some extent, in those plants on which it exerts the most power. Chaptal referred its power to its stimulating agency on plants, produced by its action when dissolved in water. Liebig ascribes its value to its giving a fixed condition to the nitrogen or ammonia which is brought into the soil, and which is indispensable for the nutrition of plants. Dana, to the action of the lime and acid of which the gypsum is composed, on the organic matter and silicates of the soil. He says—"It seems almost incredible that so minute a portion of a mineral can act at all; yet how beautifully is the result explained by the principle that plants decompose first salt; the lime, for plaster is a sulphate of lime, then acts on geine, which is thus rendered soluble; while the acid, the oil of vitriol or sulphuric acid, immediately acts on silicates." It seems very probable that no single one of these suppositions will be found able to account in full for the action of plaster. That of Dr. Dana appears to approach as nearly to a solution as any of them, if we extend his term silicates so as to embrace those combinations formed by the union of the acid of the gypsum with ammonia, after its separation from the lime. If the action of plaster was due to its fixing ammonia alone, then it ought to be equally efficient at all times and places, which it certainly is not; or if it acted directly as nutriment, then its action would be as constant as that of rotted manure or compost, which farmers well know is not the case. Plaster does not act as usefully in the vicinity of the sea, as in the interior; and on heavy wet soils, is scarcely felt at all. Light sandy soils, or loamy ones, are those on which plaster acts the most sensibly; and clover, lucerne, potatoes, cabbages, and the leguminous plants, such as peas, vetches, &c., are the vegetables on which it exerts the most powerful influence. It is much valued as a dressing for wheat, not so much, perhaps, for its direct action on that plant, although that is not trifling, as for its effect in securing and promoting the growth of the clover and other grass seeds, usually, in wheat countries, sown with this crop. So marked is the influence it exerts in this respect, that plaster, clover, and wheat, are always associated in the mind of the most successful wheat growers; and its use is the most extensive in the best wheat growing districts of our country. In the minds of many, a senseless prejudice has existed against plaster, on the ground that it more speedily exhausts the soil, and that the heavy crops at first obtained were the price of ruined farms. It is doubtless true that the man who uses plaster on his farm, who takes from his soils all he can get, and returns nothing to them, will soon find his soils worthless enough. He who intends to farm in this way, should avoid plaster; but let any farmer al-

ternate wheat and clover; husband and apply his manures; feed off his clover in his fields, or to his stock in their stalls; let him not spare his grass seeds in seeding, or his plaster in dressing, and his farm will never run down.

Common salt is an active and valuable manure, and has been used successfully as such, in all parts of the world where it can readily be obtained. In England, the pickings or impure salt is used for this purpose; and many experiments are on record to show that the effect is most marked and decisive. The following is one of a series of experiments instituted by Mr. Sinclair, to test the value of salt as a manure. The soil was light and gravelly.

- |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| No. 1. Soil without any manure for 4 years. Produce per acre,           | 13 bushels 26 lbs. |
| 2. Soil manured with stable dung to the previous crop (potatoes,)       | 26 do. 52 do.      |
| 3. Soil with 5 bush. of salt per acre, and no other manure for 4 years, | 26 do. 12 do.      |

In the opinion of Mr. Sinclair, the effect of salt as a manure was to lessen the produce of straw as compared with other manures, and to increase the weight of the grain.

Prof. Johnston has done more than any other person to extend the use of salt as a manure, by giving to the world his excellent Essay on salt used on soils, and the mass of experiments he has recorded. It appears that salt in small proportions, promotes the decomposition of animal and vegetable substances; that it destroys vermin and kills weeds; that it is a direct constituent of some plants, and therefore necessary to their perfection; that all cultivated plants of marine origin contain it, asparagus for instance; and that all such succeed better when watered with salt water, than when deprived of it; that salt preserves vegetables from injury by sudden transitions in temperature, salted soils not freezing as readily as those of which salt has not been applied; and that it renders the earth more capable of absorbing the moisture of the atmosphere. When salt is applied as a manure, it may be used in quantities from six to fifteen bushels per acre; although some have gone as high as 50 bushels. Farmers, however, should be cautious how they venture on excessive doses, as an extravagant one could scarcely fail of being fatal to any crop. Legrand, in his experiments with salt, found that it gradually improved the crop of barley until sixteen bushels per acre was reached, when it gradually diminished until the amount of forty bushels per acre was reached, when vegetation was destroyed. Salt combined with manure, has proved very efficient; and in the Woburn experiments, the wheat so treated exceeded all others. The most favorable proportions were found to be 45 tons of dung, and five and a half bushels of salt per acre; the manure plowed in, the salt sown with the seed. The experiments that have been made, would seem to indicate that a preferable mode of using salt, in most cases, would be to sow it on the land some weeks before the seed is to be put in. In this case, where lime exists in the soil, a chemical change takes place, at least partially, and muriate of lime and soda is the result. Such a change would seem to be most favorable to vegetation.

Salt and lime, artificially mixed as a manure, promises to be a valuable aid to the farmer in those positions where the soil abounds with insoluble silicates or geine, and where other manures necessary to produce decomposition or fermentation are not at hand. Prof. Johnston recommends a mixture of two parts of lime and one part of salt, the mixture to remain incorporated in a shady place, or covered with sods two or three months before using. Salt and lime should not be used immediately after mixing, as bad results are apt to ensue; but after being well mixed in

a dry state and lying as directed, it may be applied at the rate of from thirty to sixty bushels per acre, either before or at the time of sowing. Mixed with soot, salt acts with great power on roots. Mr. Sinclair mixed six and a half bushels of soot with the same quantity of salt, and used the mixture on lands sowed to carrots. The result was, that unmanured land gave twenty-three tons of roots per acre, and the manured yielded forty tons per acre; and Mr. Cartwright found that where unmanured soil gave 157 bushels of potatoes per acre, 30 bushels of soot and six of salt, made it produce 240 bushels per acre. Dr. Dana furnishes so beautiful an explanation of the manner in which this manure acts, that it deserves a place entire: "By mixing quicklime with common salt, its soda is let loose, the acid combines with the lime, forming a soluble salt of lime, and so long as the soda remains caustic, it has no effect on the muriate of lime, but as soon as the soda becomes mild or carbonated, decomposition of the muriate of lime is produced, and the common salt regenerated. Commencing then with quicklime and salt, we pass to a soluble salt of lime and caustic soda, and from that to mild soda, and to carbonate of lime and the original salt. If these various changes take place in the midst of peat or geine, it is evident that the caustic soda acts upon the geine, and also evolves ammonia from that substance; secondly, that the muriate of lime, in its finely soluble state, insinuates itself among the particles of the geine; that the soda is also equally diffused, and that when the soda becomes carbonated, it produces an almost carbonate of lime throughout the whole mass, which, by its equal diffusion through the soil with the geine, acts upon the silicates, as has been heretofore explained." To produce these effects, Dr. D. directs to take one bushel of salt and two bushels of lime; to make the salt into strong brine, and with it slack the lime. Mix both well together, and let them remain ten days; then let them be well mixed with three cords of peat, shoveled well over for about six weeks, when it may be used. A quantity of salt sufficient to destroy all vegetation, may be applied to a soil with safety when a few months are to elapse before the crop is to be put on; as the chemical changes which take place, partially neutralize its effect during this time. A small quantity mixed with the soil in each hill of corn, has been found to protect it from the wire worm and the cut worm; indeed there is no substance that insects of all kinds more dread than salt. It is probable, therefore, that further experiments will show that not the least value of salt is to be found in its preventative properties against these depredators.

Charcoal is a valuable manure, and applied directly to the soil in a pulverized state, produces excellent effects. It acts by rendering the soil more permeable to atmospheric air, by absorbing and retaining for the use of plants the ammonia of the atmosphere, or such as falls in showers; by rendering soils with which it is incorporated warmer; and by furnishing a constant supply of carbonic gas to growing plants. The productiveness of what are called coal hearths, or those places on which charcoal has been burned, has long been a common remark, but this has been commonly attributed to the ashes, burned earth, &c. on such spots, rather than the coal. The use of coal alone, however, shows that though these other matters are not without their value, the great additional fertility of these places is mostly owing to the coal. Immense quantities of this substance are wasted in the vicinity of forges, furnaces, smiths' shops, &c. which would be of great value, were farmers to collect such refuse or dust coal, and apply them to their farms. On heavy soils in Europe, it has long been customary to pare the surface, and burn the turf so collected, taking care to incorporate as much of the clay soil as will consist with the ignition of the turf. This



burnt mass of clay and ashes is scattered over the ground, and is found to make a valuable dressing on such soils.

It is impossible to particularize all substances that may be used as manure. It is evident, from the definition first given, that they would embrace all animal matters without exception; all excrementitious secretions of animals, and all vegetable ingredients in one form or another, together with a few of the mineral salts, such as the alkalies, silicates, &c. Thus, oil-cake, bran, yeast, brewers' grains, putrid meat, in short any substance that can be classed under the above divisions of matter, may be useful as manures, and this fact should induce great caution in their preservation and application. Whatever may be the present condition of a particle of matter, if it has ever formed a part of an organic body, it can again become such under circumstances favorable to such a condition.

In the preceding rapid sketch of the principal substances valuable as manures, the best methods of preparation and use have also, to a considerable extent, been given. All then that would now seem necessary for the purpose of this Essay, is a condensed view of the principles laid down, with such incidental topics as have been passed over, but of which a notice appears necessary.

As the common farmer must always rely on stable or farmyard manure, as his principal means of fertilization and renovation of his soils, it is to those, to their preparation and use, that his attention must be principally directed. It is an important question for him to decide, whether he should apply his manure in a long state, that is, apply it fresh from his stables and yards before undergoing decomposition, or let it remain until the litter and straw has fermented and become rotten, before using it. Some remarks on this topic have been made in the preceding pages, when treated of such manures, but its importance will justify their extension in this place. It has been said that rotted manure contains more geine or humus, weight for weight, than unrotted or fresh manure. This is probable; but to make this test decisive, equal weights of dung should be taken while fresh, one analyzed at the time, and the other when fermented and rotted. This course, it is believed, would show a result in favor of the unrotted. There can be no doubt, however, that stable litter, &c. should be partially fermented before using, and the moisture necessary for the process should, if possible, be the urine of the animals or the drainings of the yards. Straw, in dung intended for a particular crop, is of little use unless the fermentation has far progressed; and a distinguished German farmer has asserted that he considered straw as of no consequence in manure, except as acting the part of a sponge to retain the fluid parts of the animal manures. There are some exceptions to this remark, as when straw is applied to heavy clay grounds before rotting. In this case, when plowed under, it gives a degree of porosity to the soil, absorbs part of the moisture, and acts the part of a valuable amender, while it is eventually converted into a manure, or a source of carbonic gas. Where the unfermented dung of the yard or stable is applied to the soil, it should be covered at once by the plow, that the gases liberated in fermentation may not be lost, and that the moisture necessary for fermentation may be secured. When rotted or fermented, the covering is not of such consequence, and it may, without loss, be scattered on the surface and mixed with it. If used without fermenting, it should be applied to hoed or summer crops, such as corn or roots, as these are in that state while the manure is at the height of its fermentation, when forcing manures are the most useful; but if applied to the smaller grains, they are most active when matter for the perfection of the seed, not the enlargement of the straw, is most needed, and the last is increased at the expense of the first. Taking all these circumstances into consideration, there can be little question that the most economical way of making and using manures, is to convert the stable and barnyard manure into compost, by the addition of peat, swamp muck, cleansing of ditches, wash of roads, leashed ashes, or even common loam or earth, taking care, when the manure is wanted for heavy soils, that the earth used in the compost should be as light or sandy as may be; and where the soil is light, that the compost earth should be marly clay. In to such a compost heap, all weeds, straw, litter, animal matter of all kinds, night soil, &c. &c., may be thrown, and upon it all the wash of the yards and urine of the stables may be poured; and if the animal and vegetable matters as they accumulate, are kept covered and moist, the fermentation will go on successfully; the alkalies and salts of the animal matters will act on the vegetable part and saturate the earths used, and the whole will be converted

into manure of the most valuable quality. The labor of preparing compost, it is true, is much greater than merely drawing it from the yard, but the quantity is so much increased, and the quality so much improved, that it is the most economical in the end. The only method that can compare with it, is to place these matters over the yard, and let them be composted or fermented in that place; but there will always be great waste in this way; and where turf or vegetable mold is used for composting with the animal manure, the compost heaps can frequently be made where they are to be used, and the labor of drawing materials greatly lessened. Bommer's patent manure is only compost made in a scientific and accurate manner, every part of process so managed as to produce a perfect fermentation, without the loss of any of the valuable parts of the constituents used. From a knowledge of the processes employed by him, we are able to say that where his directions are followed, a powerful and valuable manure cannot fail to be produced. The fundamental principle upon which composts have been made, is that of impregnating earths used in the process with the soluble salts and the gases, which, in the ordinary methods of rotting, are wholly or partially lost to the farmer. The discussions which have been carried on, as to the propriety or impropriety of burying manures in the soil, have arisen from not stating the kind of manure to be used. The solid and soluble parts of manure have a tendency to rise. The true principle, then, is to bury the unfermented matters no deeper than is necessary to secure the moisture required for fermentation, while the fermented or decomposed dung, having no fertilizing gases to lose, may be mixed at once with the surface earth. Some of the greatest crops of Indian corn ever grown in the United States, have been produced by placing a heavy dressing of unfermented manure on turf land, and turning it under with the plow. The surface is then rolled to press the sod close upon the manure, and afterwards harrowed, to loosen the earth for the reception of the seed. Into each hill, a small portion of fully rotted manure or compost is put at planting. This promotes germination, gives the young plant a vigorous start, and by the time the roots have penetrated beyond this, fermentation has commenced in the long manure, and thus fertilizing matters are furnished in the greatest abundance when most wanted by the plant.

Of the mineral manures used, lime, as has been already stated, is the most important, and under all its forms, is extensively used in Europe and in this country. The German farmers of Lancaster, Chester, and the adjoining counties of Pennsylvania, use lime more extensively than in any other part of this country. Considerable discussion has been had at different times as to the comparative value of limes that contain magnesia, or such as are free from it; but the value of lime as a dressing for soils, seems to be every where conceded in those districts where it has been used. It appears as the result of experience, that lime produces the best effect on what are called stiff loams, or loams inclining to clay, and in which a good proportion of decayed organic matter is found. It is found, too, that it operates more favorably on soils natural to oak and its kindred trees, such as walnut, poplar, &c. than on those where the beech, elm and maple constitute the principal timber. It is singular that the richest limestone lands, as they are called from being based on this rock, are frequently those on which heavy dressings of lime operate like a charm. If used as a top dressing, lime is usually applied to the sod in the fall; but the practice most approved, is to lime the corn ground in the spring, on the inverted sod. Manure is applied to the wheat crop after lime. The quantity of lime used varies much. There is no doubt it has sometimes been used in excessive quantities; and when used on soils nearly destitute of vegetable matter, can produce no good effect. On a medium soil, fifty bushels per acre may be considered an abundant dressing; but three or four times that is sometimes used. The best method of using lime, is to take it from the kiln, unslacked, and deposit it in the field where it is to be used, not more than three or four bushels in a place; and either slack it by pouring water over it, or, which is better, by covering each pile with earth, and letting them slack by the moisture thus furnished. When sufficiently fine, the earth and the lime are mixed by shoveling over, and the mass is then scattered over the land to be dressed. The soil should be well harrowed after the application of lime, to incorporate it more completely with the surface earth.

It is obvious that the manuring of a farm should only be limited by the ability of the owner. On a plentiful supply of manures, is depending the fertility of his soils,

the amount of his crops, and consequently the extent to which his labor is rewarded. There is no expenditure on a farm, so safe as that for manure; and the labor required to increase it, is never labor lost; at least, if directed by an ordinary share of agricultural knowledge and skill. Every source of supply should be made available; nothing capable of fertilizing should be lost. The farmer who takes from his soil more than he returns to it, is surely impoverishing it; and if he escapes such a calamity himself, he leaves to his successors a worn out farm. If he returns as much as he receives, his farm will retain its original fertility only; but the true farmer will scarcely be content with this. To increase its fertility, and the amount and quality of the crop taken from the soil, should be the aim of the husbandman. This done, his labor is lessened, his profits are greater, his farm is worth more; nor must the pleasure arising from beautiful fields, golden harvests, fine animals, and accumulating prosperity, be omitted in making up our estimate of the advantages of successful culture. Manure may be a homely subject, but on its preparation and use every thing is depending. Without it, the green of our pastures, the golden yellow of our corn fields, and the fine beef and white loaf of our tables could not exist. To the farmer, manure must be the first thing, and it must be the last thing; with it, he can do every thing; without it, nothing.

#### CORN SALK SUGAR AND MOLASSES.

To the Editors of the Tennessee State Agriculturist:

Gentlemen:—Whilst deservedly great importance is attached, in various parts of our country, to the culture of Silk and manufacture of Lard Oil and Candles, it is somewhat surprising that comparatively little interest is manifested in regard to another source of independence just commencing its existence, and which in consequence of the more universal appropriation of its prototype is, to say the least, equal in point of value to either of the above named productions. I allude to Cornstalk Sugar and Molasses. Probably as large a sum is annually paid for sugar and molasses by the citizens of Tennessee, as the whole amount of taxes collected for the support of the state government. A saving of all this, which can and ought to be done, would be sensibly and beneficially felt throughout our whole community. Since sending to you the communication on this subject, published in the last number of the Agriculturist, I have been favored with the perusal of the report of H. L. ELLSWORTH, Esq. Commissioner of Patents. A large space in this valuable document is occupied with details of various experiments in regard to and directions for manufacturing cornstalk sugar and molasses. And as I was somewhat suspicious that the favourable account I gave of the success of my own hasty and imperfect experiments might, to some extent, be deemed the results of enthusiasm, it was especially gratifying to perceive in the above named production confirmation the most ample of every thing I advanced on the subject. Perhaps many of your readers who feel interested in this business, have not enjoyed the opportunity of examining Mr. Ellsworth's report, and I shall therefore proceed to make such extracts from it as it is presumed will prove most satisfactory and useful. Indeed if many of its articles relating to rural and domestic economy were transferred to the pages of the Agriculturist, they could not be more agreeably and profitably occupied. Now for the extracts. Mr. Ellsworth in his introductory remarks amongst other things says: "Yet the results have every where been so satisfactory, that though but little sugar has been made, not one person from whom we have heard expresses a doubt of its entire practicability, or the least discouragement. On the contrary they one and all confidently assert that the product will yet become a great staple in our country. An excellent molasses or sirup has usually been obtained, and were this the only thing secured, yet in this point of view it would doubtless prove a great desideratum." Mr. Webb, of Wilmington, Delaware, in relation to his last experiment says: "These anticipations have been more and more confirmed by every succeeding step in the investigation. We obtained 50 gallons of sirup, which boiled to the density of sugar, was much richer and better than the best sugar-house molasses. Part of it was sold for \$1 per gallon. We also had 10 gallons evaporated in broad shallow vessels; this crystallized readily and made good sugar. Besides the products above mentioned, we obtained from the acre 40 gallons of Vinegar. The fodder was equal to 2 tons of hay. One fourth of the crop was lost in consequence of being prostrated by



a storm and another fourth by the stalks being imperfectly pressed. I do not think any manufacture ever promised better in the early stages of its introduction."

Mr. Blake of Indianapolis, Indiana, did not succeed in making sugar, but made 260 or 280 gallons of thick sirup. He says: "My main object in trying the experiment was to ascertain whether the Cornstalk contains saccharine matter sufficient to make it an object to cultivate hereafter as one of the great staples of our state. On this point I am satisfied that in a few years it will become an article of export and great value to the West. My molasses is esteemed by all who taste it, to be superior to New Orleans. When I got my mill to work well I could grind 300 gallons of juice in 18 hours work with two horses, allowing one hour for each horse at a time. Two boys could attend the mill with ease." Mr. Plummer of Richmond, in the same state, says: "The success equals the expectations as to the quantity, but the quality was not so fine as expected, and it is supposed more milk of lime was used than necessary. The sugar however proved equal to second quality New Orleans.\* The farmers there, he adds, as an evidence of their confidence, do not expect to open their sugar trees again." Mr. Goodrich of Terre Haut, is also stated to have produced from 8 gallons of juice, 2 gallons of molasses, pronounced by competent judges to be equal to sugar-house molasses. For boiling, Mr. Webb recommends shallow copper vessels about 2 feet long, 18 inches wide and 6 inches deep. In such the evaporation can be completed in 2 hours, whilst in deep vessels it requires 10 or 12 hours. The more speedily the boiling is performed the more readily will the sirup crystalize, but the molasses will not be so good as when boiled a greater length of time. Professor Mapes of New York, who appears to have paid considerable attention to the business, in a letter to Mr. Ellsworth, gives the following directions: "To cut the stalk as ripe as possible and express the juice without loss of time, as every moment after cutting will deteriorate the quality. The time occupied from cutting the cane to finishing the boiling, should not exceed one hour. About a quart of clear lime water to every 100 gallons of juice should be added the moment it is expressed. The kettle should be so arranged that the moment it is done, the charge should be thrown into a cooler capable of holding a number of charges. The first charge should be left in the cooler without stirring until the second is thrown in, then with an ear scrape the crystals found on the sides and bottom loose and gently stir the whole (the less stirred the better) When all is in the cooler let the whole stand until it cools down to 175°. Then fill out into conical moulds of wood or metal with a hole in the apex. When sufficiently cool (say 14 hours) pull out the plug and insert a sharp point nearly as large as the hole and stand the mould on a pot to drip. Leaving it on the pot in a temperature of 60° will run off its molasses and leave it in a merchantable shape, and this will probably require 20 days." The professor further says: "Since I last saw you I have made some experiments on the cornstalks, and if your statements are correct as to the quantity of juice which can be obtained from an acre, there can be no doubt as to its entire superiority over the sugar cane. I fear, however, that the enthusiasm of those who made the experiments you spoke of has led them into errors." Sustained by authority so respectable, I shall conclude by repeating the assertion formerly made, that cornstalk sugar and sirup or even the sirup alone (if properly made) can be substituted for New Orleans or any other kind of brown sugar, without any infringement of the legitimate prerogatives of our tastes or comfort.

Very Respectfully,

W. H. DEADERICK.

Athens, May, 1843.

\*Pretty well we should think for the first attempt.

†The worthy Professor may rest assured that there is neither mistake nor enthusiasm in regard to this part of the business. With the express view of determining this point, I counted and superintended the grinding of 100 stalks, which yielded 10 gallons and 1 quart of juice, and this made one gallon of sirup concentrated to the point of crystallization. An acre of land capable of producing 40 bushels of corn, if planted 3 feet each way and 3 stalks in a hill, or in rows 3 feet wide and stalks 1 foot apart, will yield 14000 such stalks; of course 140 gallons of thick sirup equal to 1000 lbs. sugar, or about 170 gallons of the density of common molasses.

#### ADVANTAGE OF BLUE GRASS PASTURES.

The advantages of Blue Grass Pastures are very clearly stated in the following communication, which we copy from the *Prairie Farmer*.

*Blue Grass—by Thomas N. Wells.*

DEAR SIR: Enclosed you have a handful of blue grass, plucked at one grasp, from the sod, the longest stalk measuring 2 feet, and the shortest 17 inches to the end of the seed stem, and to the end of the blades, about 3 inches longer—the growth of 1843, and plucked this day. I hope you will receive it fresh. It was taken from the side of a piece of plowed ground which adjoins a blue grass patch, and has not been fed this spring.

There is one fact—and the other is, that until about the 10th inst., we have been obliged to feed corn and hay to our stock, to keep them alive until the prairie grass should grow sufficiently for that purpose. Even now, the prairie is a lean pasture. My cattle have been ousted from their blue grass this spring, by about 300 and odd sheep which I have in keeping. These sheep have had no feed of any kind, since the 1st day of April, except pasturage, and they are now fat. They were put upon it as soon as the snow would let their noses to the ground.

Again—last fall my stock were kept upon the grass until the 12th of November, when the herbage was covered with snow, and so remained until the 1st of April, with the exception of a few days in January. Had the climate been open, the sheep would have required little else than the grass, although it was cropped quite short in the fall.

From the foregoing, I draw two conclusions: 1st. That the tame grasses, and especially blue grass, even if fed throughout the summer and fall, will afford good feed about six weeks later in autumn, and about six weeks earlier in the spring, than the prairie grass. If shut up all the summer and fall, the blue grass affords the best of feed all winter, when the snow does not cover it. Think of that—six weeks in the fall, and six weeks in the spring!—does it not shorten our winter three months, for all the purposes of stock raising and pasturage?

2nd. The grass I send you, has obviously felt the effects of the plow—for the grass upon the adjoining sod, in the same piece, which has lain undisturbed for about 3 years, will not average more than eight inches in height. The inference is legitimate then, that any process which shall stir the soil, whether it be by the scarifier, a sharp harrow, a set of coulters, or even by the plow, will much increase the luxuriance of the herbage.

I know as well as any one, that farmers cannot do all they would wish, at once; but it is astonishing, that they will toil and sweat through the heat of summer, to raise grain to feed to cattle, and horses and sheep through the winter, and find in the spring, that a few cattle have devoured the labor of a year. Hogs must be fattened on grain—working horses must be fed on grain—and all stock may require a little occasionally; but I much doubt the economy of keeping store stock of any kind on grain. Grain is worth but little, it is true, in money—but it is worth just as much in labor and sweat, as it ever was.

Wm. J. Phelps, Esq., has truly said in your paper, that we are too much of a grain-growing people—not too much for the purposes of sale, but for feeding to our stock. And, as Mr. Sanborn says, put up plenty of prairie hay, if you have no other; but do not forget, it soon will cost more labor to haul it from beyond the settlements, than all the labor of making your crop of Timothy at home. Many will reply, that they are not fixed for it—or have not time to seed down a meadow or pasture. Now let me suggest to my brother farmers, a definite plan for an experiment, to satisfy their own minds on this subject. If you put in wheat in the coming autumn, harrow say, five acres of it very smooth after seeding—buy one bushel of Timothy seed, and half a bushel of blue grass seed, mix thoroughly, and sow upon the five acres—in spring, put on clover to suit you. You lose nothing but your seed in case of failure or disappointment—but if you do not find the profit in good sweet hay, and late and early pasture, and the comfort from having rich milk and butter after your neighbors cows are dry, (to say nothing of hunting cows in thickets and brakes after night-fall,) to exceed that to be derived from any other ten acres upon your farms, then I will hold my peace, or even consent to be turned out to grass, till my reason returns, like Nebuchadnezzar, of Babylonish memory. I meant to say but one word, but have said, I find, at least twenty.

French Creek, Peoria co., Ill., May 13, 1843.

The grass sent by Mr. Welles is received with thanks.

Many suppose this to be the grass which comes up spontaneously, about old Indian grounds. It appears to be a different affair, although that species answers the description of this, in growing early and late. We noticed some this spring, that afforded rich feed for stock, at least three weeks before the other grass had started, even on bottom lands.—*Ed. Prairie Farmer.*

LUCERNE.—We have noticed several times this season, the luxuriant growth of some lucerne mixed with grasses on a part of the grounds on which the late Hon. John Lowell experimented. We know not how long it is since the lucerne was sowed; but it is probably five years or more. The soil we cannot pretend to describe with accuracy, but it must be heavy and rather wet. It is a sort of interval on the banks of a small stream. The subsoil must be quite wet; and yet two weeks ago the lucerne there was double the height of any of the other grasses, and its foliage large and rich. Yes, two weeks ago last Monday, when we saw it, this lucerne was more than a foot high apparently, and had the ground been covered with that alone, there would have been at that time a good crop.

We think the lucerne has not been tried so much in this country as its luxuriance entitles it to. It has been made to do well in various places, and we have no doubt that a little experience with it, would enable us to grow it successfully on most of our farms, and that we should find it much more productive than any of our grasses or our clovers. The appearance of that on the Lowell grounds has raised the question with us, whether the European recommendation that it be sown on a dry sandy or gravelly soil, is wise for us, with our hotter suns and dryer summers.—*N. E. Farmer.*

NEW SPECIES OF HEMP.—The following communication will astonish the hemp-growers. If this is really a new kind of hemp, it will prove of great value. The sample is very superior, being extremely strong and of light color. It is harsher and much stronger than the common is generally, but we have seen common hemp, when but little watered, resemble it very closely. The writer of this letter is an old subscriber of ours, and we cannot suspect him of deception, but he may be himself deceived. We should be thankful for further information on the subject:—*Louisville Jour.*

To the Editor of the Louisville Journal.

MARROWBONE, CUMBERLAND CO., KY.,

May 15, 1843.

Gentlemen: Knowing that you take a deep interest in whatever will benefit Kentucky, I take the liberty of sending you a sample of what I shall call Native American hemp, a plant that has lately been discovered in this section of country. I cannot at this time give you a description of the plant, as it was not observed until the last of February, by the gentleman of whom I got the sample that I send you. He informed me that it first attracted his attention by observing the fibre hanging loose on the plant, and that a good hand could gather and break on the ordinary hemp-break 200 pounds per day. This hemp will not require pulling up and rolling in the usual manner, but is left to stand as it grows, until it is sufficiently rotted, when it is broken off at the ground and taken to the break. He also informed me that he procured near a pound of the broken hemp from a space of eighteen inches square. I have seen the roots of the plant; it is of the biennial kind: the seeds were all gone at the time of discovery. I wish you to present the sample to the Agricultural Society. I will gladly give you any further information that I can concerning this singular plant after I see the growth of it.

Yours, very truly,

SAMUEL SMILEY.

BEEs.—To prevent bees from going off upon swarming, take the precaution, when they exhibit a disposition to swarm, to stop most of the holes by which they leave the hive, so as to force the swarm to be a good while coming out. The swarm is commonly made up of the young bees, many of whom can scarcely fly; and as nothing can be done by the swarm till all are out of the hive, but fly about in the air, by prolonging the time of their coming out, the feeble ones get tired, and their plans so frustrated, that it is necessary for them to alight for rest, and to re-arrange for their journey. If the swarm be able to leave the old hive all at once, they care but little about alighting.—*Prairie Farmer.*



## THE AMERICAN FARMER.

PUBLISHED BY SAMUEL SANDS.

**IMPROVEMENT IN THE TIMES**—In the 1st number of the present volume, we gave the assurance to our agricultural brethren, that we saw the evidences of certain signs, which induced us to believe that, in a very short period, matters would improve, and that a *gradual* melioration in those interests in which agriculturists were most deeply concerned, would take place; and we are not a little gratified to find, that the truth of our opinion we then formed, has already begun to be verified, as the prices of most agricultural products have already advanced, and we doubt not, that they will, ere long, be such as will (the relative prices of those articles consumed by farmers and planters, not produced by them, being considered) afford satisfactory remuneration. We do not wish to excite any sanguine notions, that the high prices of many years back will be realized, because we do not entertain any such belief. The present condition of the world, and its aspect prospectively, both concur to forbid indulgence in any such belief; but we are clearly of the opinion, that the prices which will be obtained during the present and next year, unless some unforeseen events should occur, will be such as will generously repay the husbandman for his toils, with, perhaps, the exceptions of cotton and sugar, and even these great staples of our country, will, we think, command what may be considered moderately remunerating prices. The latter we feel assured will; though, from over production, and other collateral circumstances, the prices of the former may not advance in an equal ratio with other products. For let us theorize as we may, there is no truth more certain, than that glutted markets will bring down the value of any commodity, be it what it may, demand being mostly limited to actual wants, and supply often found in excess, but never without producing a depreciation of value.

## THE CROPS—THE GRAIN MARKET—BREADSTUFFS.

A circular letter under the above head, dated St. Louis, May 10th, 1843, addressed by George K. Budd, a flour factor and commission merchant of St. Louis, Missouri, to his correspondents, is going the rounds of the papers. At the time it made its first appearance, we read it attentively, and were so well convinced that the data upon which the statements of the writer were founded, were unsafe, untenable and exaggerated, that we determined at once neither to publish it, nor notice its contents. But as a degree of consequence appears to be given to it, to which, from its inaccuracies, it is not entitled, we deem it our duty to point out such parts as appear to us erroneous. We know how difficult it is, for any one to make any statement upon suppositious data, which will approach even to the character of an approximation to reality, and, therefore, acquit Mr. Budd of all intention of sinister design, or of the most remote desire to mislead the public judgment. We believe, however, that he is altogether wrong in the bases upon which he has predicated his estimates, and that they are calculated to do injury to the agricultural interests, and so believing, will take the liberty of directing public attention to those parts of his circular, wherein we believe he is in error, and of making such corrections as we consider to be required by the occasion.

In the first place, Mr. Budd estimates the product of wheat in 1842, at 110 millions of bushels; which for the following reasons we consider altogether too high. The product of wheat, agreeably to the census of 1840 was 84,823,272 bushels: Mr. Ellsworth, in his valuable Report to Congress for 1842, estimates the crop of 1841, at 91,642,957 bushels, and in his report of 1843, he estimates the crop of 1842, at 102,317,340 bushels. In the formation of his judgment, he sought information, in every quarter, from the most authentic sources, and after weigh-

ing and comparing the various opinions and facts, which after the most diligent and well directed inquiries he was enabled to get together, he arrived at the conviction, that the only safe calculation he could make, would be to add 10 per cent to the product of 1841, and thus attain that of 1842. This was probably as safe a way of reaching the truth, under the circumstances, as could have been adopted; but with the best intentions, (and no man has better ones than Mr. Ellsworth) it is utterly impossible to approach to any thing like certainty, as to results, in any calculations predicated upon mere opinions. The estimate of Mr. Ellsworth, was at the time of its promulgation considered too high by some of the best and closest calculators in the country, and among the rest by that clear, cool-headed man, Professor Colman. We, however, did not cavil at it, but thought it then, as we think it now, as near an approximation to the reality as could well be arrived at, as our own information went to show, that a large increase of seed had been sown in the fall of 1841, and the general yield of the States had been good, while that of particular States had been very heavy.

Mr. Budd estimates the yield of wheat at 20 bushels per acre, an estimate, we think, entirely too large. It may hold good in the new Western wheat growing States, where the soil has not been exhausted of its humus and potash; but so far as the old wheat growing States are concerned, it is fully 50 per cent. above the average product; yet even among these, there are many exceptions, and exceptions too, which exceed his average of 20 bushels to the acre; though that quantity, with most of them, would be considered an extraordinary product. Indeed, it is a melancholy fact, that where one wheat grower in the old States averages 20 bushels per acre, there are fifty who do not average 15, and as many, whose average will not reach 10 bushels to the acre. If then, we take these facts, and consider the various enemies which the wheat crop have to encounter, in the shape of frost, insects and disease, we think there is infinitely more reliance to be placed in the detailed estimate, by States, of Mr. Ellsworth, than there is in the lumping one of Mr. Budd, which appears to us to have as many of the elements of guessing and haphazard in it, as any document we have ever seen.

Now then, we propose to take Mr. Ellsworth's estimate of the product of 1842, as the basis of an estimate, reduce the surplus of 1841, so as to make it correspond with Mr. Ellsworth's estimate of 1841; take the ratios of consumption, for home use and for seed and for export, as assumed by Mr. Budd, as our data upon that head, and then make our statement accordingly, although we think the allowance, per capita, of 4½ bushels for home consumption, entirely too small, and believe that a large quantity of wheat has been consumed this last winter and spring in the West, in the sustenance of stock after the other provender became exhausted.

Our recapitulation will stand thus:

	Bushels.
Crop of 1842 agreeable to Mr. Ellsworth,	102,317,340
Surplus on hand of prior year, graduated by Mr. E.'s estimate of 91,642,951 bushels for 1841,	3,332,471
Making on hand, 1st October, 1842,	105,649,811
Consumption from 1st Oct. 1842 to 1st Oct. 1843,	83,250,000
Exportation to various places in grain and flour,	10,000,000
Seed for present crop,	8,662,500
Leaving on hand, 1st Oct. 1843,	3,737,311

By Mr. Budd's estimate, arbitrarily assuming 110 millions of bushels as the product of 1842, and making all his other data correspondent to that basis, he makes the surplus on hand on the 1st of Oct. 1843, to be carried to the present year's crop, 12,087,500 bushels; but as we

believe that the opportunities which are enjoyed by Mr. Ellsworth, arising from his official station, extensive acquaintance, numerous correspondents, great popularity, and passion for statistics, give him great advantages, we consider him the safer calculator. Let us then compare the two results.

Surplus on hand according to Mr. Budd, 1st October, 1843,	12,087,500
Surplus according to Mr. Ellsworth's data,	3,737,311

Difference in bushels, 8,350,189

Now, whether we take the one or the other of these estimates, its result must, at best, be considered but an approximation to certainty; but for the reasons assigned, we have given the preference to that of Mr. Ellsworth, and find, that Mr. Budd, merely from the force of a too sanguine temperament, has created a surplus of last year's crop, to be added to that of the present year, of over 8 1-3 millions of bushels more than we believe will actually be on hand. But the wheat growers, and especially those of the old States, will be able to judge of the accuracy of any statement, which estimates the average product of the whole United States at 20 bushels per acre.

Mr. Budd gives a similar statement for the years 1843 and 1844, by which he demonstrates, that on the 1st of October 1844, there will be a deficiency of 6,200,000 bushels of wheat; but as we have satisfied ourselves, that his calculations of the preceding years are made with a degree of looseness, which render them unreliable, we have no fancy or encouragement to follow him any farther; but will state, that he gives it as his opinion, that the product of the wheat crop of 1843, will fall short of that of 1842, fully one-fourth, or twenty-five per cent.—And while Mr. Budd admits this falling off in product, he states, that there were 5 per cent. more wheat seeded last fall than the fall before. If we were to avail ourselves of this admitted falling off in product, take Mr. Ellsworth's aggregate yield as our guide, and carry on a similar calculation to the one we have already made, for the year 1844, instead of the deficiency being, as estimated by Mr. Budd, 6 1-5 millions of bushels, it would be sufficient to awaken fears of famine. But as we have no taste in that way, and have already shewn tolerably clear, that he has made a miscalculation in the surplus of 1843, we think it quite as probable, that he has been equally unfortunate in making out his deficiency for 1844. Therefore, as even imaginary famines, under the excitement of anticipation, might prove as unpleasant as have the destruction of the world prophesied by the fanatic Miller, and we hold it to be unchristian to be meeting evil half way, we prefer to leave the issue with the same kind Providence, who has watched over us from the era of our freedom up to the present day, under the confiding assurance, that come what may, we will be fully as well cared for as we may have deserved.

We shall now close this article, by disclaiming all intention of calling in question the purity of Mr. Budd's motives, and we do this the more cheerfully, as we believe his errors of figures to have proceeded solely from an honest conviction in the truth of the premises he has assumed, and a laudable desire to communicate information which he considered important to be known.

**TO DESTROY SLUGS UPON WHEAT.**—Collect a number of lean ducks; keep them all day without food, and turn them into the fields towards evening; each duck would devour the slugs much faster than a man could collect them, and then get fat for market.

**HENS—EGGS**—If you wish for hens to hatch female chicks, select those eggs to set them which are distinguished for having smooth ends. Those which have their small ends roughened by concentric circles, and which are the most oval in form, produce cocks. It is a matter of importance, sometimes, to the grower to understand this fact. At least so thought Collumella.—*Maine Cultivator.*



## GOULIART &amp; BAER'S MANURE PROCESS.

"Will the Editor of the *American Farmer* be so obliging as to inform us whether or not Messrs. Gouliart & Baer, entrust their secret, with the right of using it, to others; and if they do, on what terms?"—*Farmer's Gaz.*

It gives us pleasure to reply to the inquiry of our friend of the *Cheraw Farmer's Gazette*. Every purchaser of a right, receives from Messrs. G. & B. a printed pamphlet, containing full directions both as regards the mode of constructing the *manure heaps*, and the *ingredients* used in the composition of the decomposing liquid. The price of rights vary, according to size of farms, from, we think, \$8 to \$20.

The party purchasing a right is bound to keep the secret to himself.

We know the constituents used in making the liquid, and have no hesitation in expressing the opinion, that, besides being calculated to produce the desired fermentation, they add much to the nutritive qualities of the manure, and also contribute largely in those mineral properties, which impart vigor to the growing plant, act as solvents to silex, neutralize humic acid, and promote maturation in the fruit.

**TOBACCO CROP OF VIRGINIA.**—The editor of the *Lynchburg Virginian*, in speaking of the prospects of the Tobacco crop of Virginia, says, that "from present appearances, it would seem that the next crop of tobacco in Virginia must be a short one. There is, in the first place, a general complaint of the scarcity of plants; and in the next, the lateness of the season would prevent the pitching of a very heavy crop even if the plants were abundant. It is nearly the middle of June, when ordinarily, the crop is planted; and yet we have heard of many planters who have not a plant in the hills, and very few, we presume, have got through with it. Unless a planting season shall come very soon, the crop, we think, must be a very small one.

**Wheat and Cotton in Georgia.**—Owing to a prevailing drought, the wheat and cotton crops in Georgia have suffered sorely, and, at the last advices, presented very discouraging prospects.

**CURCULIO IN THE PLUM.**—The *New England Farmer* contains a correspondence between Mr. Benj. V. French, of Braintree, Massachusetts, and an eminent Horticulturist of the State of New York, upon the subject of a *preventive remedy* against the ravages of this destructive insect in plum, apricot, and other trees of that nature. It appears that while on a visit to the latter gentleman, Mr. French was told by him that he had great faith in salt as a sure remedy against the curculio, and after Mr. French's return home he wrote for information, as to the mode of application and quantity of salt used.

The letter in reply to these inquiries, states—that the writer cannot say how small a quantity will answer, for he has always put it on so as to make the ground look white, a little further than the branches extend: that the salt may be put on any time before the fruit sets: the writer does not think that he has had ten plums stung this year, except on *one tree*, around which he had put no salt, and on that *one* there was not a plum but what was stung by the curculio. The writer has the fullest confidence in the efficacy of the salt; but says, that it is necessary to observe some care, if there should be plants under the plum trees, as the salt will destroy them.

So far as the stinging of this mischievous insect may be concerned, we should think that the season is too far advanced for salt to be of essential preventive service, applied on the ground, though we do think, that a solution of salt, if thrown by a garden engine on the tree, would prove beneficial, by rendering the fruit repulsive to the sense of smell of the curculio, the which, if it be not un-

like that of all others, is delicately sensitive, and would induce it to avoid the young fruit from the saline impregnation of its external surface.

**APPLE TREE BORERS.**—As it is in this and the next month that these destructive insects lay their eggs on the trunk, near the root, of the apple, quince and other trees, it strikes us that it would be a good plan to subject the body of each tree in an orchard to a washing, with a hard brush with strong ley, to be made either of ashes, or pot ash, at least once in every two weeks from now until August. A washing with lime water, made strong, might have an equally good effect in the destruction of the eggs. We recommend this course, because we look upon all preventive means as best.

Should the insect bore into the tree, it is recommended by Professor Harris to insert a wire and destroy him in his hole of mischief.

Dr. H. also recommends that a little *camphor* be inserted in the holes, which we think well of, provided the hole be stopped to confine the scent, as, from experience, we have found the smell of camphor more offensive to insects generally, than any thing else we have ever known to be used.

\* We feel certain that the ammoniacal liquor made, and daily thrown away, at gas houses, would have an equally good effect, as the old boy himself could hardly stand the stench.

**RUTA BAGA TURNIPS.**—We would particularly remind those who may desire to cultivate a crop of Ruta Baga turnips, the present season, that *the time has arrived* for sowing the seed. As we have repeatedly given directions for their culture we will now only make a few general remarks.

1. The ground must be well manured, with the same kind of manure as are used for other turnips.

2. The ground should be twice ploughed, the first time very deep, and after being harrowed, the manure should be put on and ploughed in about 2 or 3 inches deep; then the ground should be harrowed and rolled.

3. The ground being thus prepared, drills must be made 2 feet a part and 1 inch deep. As the drills are made, drill in the seed *thinly*, cover them with mould or well rotted manure, mixed as follows, to every 5 bushels of mould add 1 bushel of ashes and incorporate them well together. After the seed is covered with the compost, let the drill be patted down with the hoe.

4. In preparing the seed, soak them 24 hours in fish oil, then drain and dry them in plaster or ashes, when they must be immediately drilled in. No danger need be apprehended from the seed remaining almost any length of time in the oil. If oil be not convenient, soak the seed in a brine made of salt and hot water.

5. When the plants first come up, sprinkle fresh slacked lime over them, two or three mornings in succession, while the dew is on them.

5. Keep them clean of weeds from their first coming up, till you lay them by; take care that you never permit the weeds to get ahead of you—and be sure to keep the earth open.

7. As soon as the plants get two or three inches high, and beyond harm from the fly, thin out, so as to stand from 6 to 8 inches apart in the rows.

Be sure, if you wish a good crop, and desire to raise plenty of roots for your sheep and other stock, to sow your seed without further delay.

**PEACH TREES.**—One cause of the destruction of peach trees by the past cold winter, is the bringing of trees, and of stones from which to raise trees from the south. We have for years been warning farmers against this practice, showing the importance of raising trees from seeds of a hardy kind produced in this section, or further north if they could be obtained.

We are informed that one man has lost 500 trees that were brought from New Jersey. This is a cold climate for the peach, and it is not only far north of its native region, but in a much colder climate than that to which it seems well adapted. Yet by proper measures we may acclimate it, or propagate from those already acclimated. But if we go on heedlessly, disregarding the true principles of science in cultivating trees, and procure our seeds and trees where they can be had the cheapest, we shall, as many do at present, heartily rue our folly. A little reflection upon this subject will correct this great evil. The seeds for peach trees should if possible be obtained from our hardy native trees, that have long been accustomed to our climate.

The peach tree has many formidable enemies in the insects that attack it. Among the most destructive is the borer. We believe that there is no effectual remedy against these destructive insects. Their operations may be in a measure prevented by putting around the roots of trees various substances, as have been recommended. Such as strong wood ashes, anthracite ashes, fresh slacked lime, tar, tobacco leaves, and other injurious and offensive substances. But these nor others will be perfectly effectual; for though the borer generally operates near the ground, it sometimes ascends to the branches and then enters the tree. We have had trees of only a year's growth much injured by their operations in this way. At the agricultural meeting last winter, when the subject of fruit trees was under consideration, in an anonymous letter, received by the Chairman, it was recommended to put a small piece of hard soap, about the size of a walnut, in some niche or hole in the trees, if any, or on a branch, and it would dissolve and run down with the rains, destroying the insects and rendering the tree healthy. This is a more durable method of applying a remedy than that of applying potash water, soap suds and other washes. When the soap is all dissolved it may be renewed, then the remedy will be constantly applied. We are acquainted with the author of that letter and he says that he has found the soap a complete protection against the borer, and one of the cheapest, most convenient and effectual remedies against insects of every kind. We would recommend its trial, and should be pleased to hear the result.—*Boston Cultivator*.

[The putting of a lump of soap in a niche or hole in the tree, we have no doubt would be productive of good; but apprehend the dissolving soap would cover too small a space to be effective. The better plan would be, to paint the entire body of the tree, and such of the limbs as were within reach, with soft soap. By so doing, the whole available surface would be covered with the repellent, instead of a limited portion, and hence the preventive would be general, instead of being partial.—*Ed. Amer. Farm.*]

**Frost.**—The frosts of the 1st and 2d of this month appear to have extended in almost every direction, and to have been very destructive to all the tender vegetables, though not to the fruit.

**INSECT AND WORM DESTROYER.**—Of the value of the article described below, as a worm and bug destroyer, we have no knowledge; but that it has, unsolicited, been sent us for trial, with the understanding that we are to state its results just what we shall find them, is presumptive evidence that it will prove serviceable. We give publicity to the letter and the directions, in order that any persons who may be disposed, on their own judgment, to make trial of this new article, may know where to get it, and how to apply it in advance of our trial. We should not take this course, but for the almost certainty that we cannot test and make known the results of our trial until it will be too late for others to send for and use the article for their early vines this season. We do not recommend it, nor will Messrs. Breck & Co. obtain it on their own account, until its effects have been witnessed. But we are willing to aid any person in obtaining it who may be inclined to make trial of it on the strength of Mr. Dey's letter and directions or card.

New York, May 20, 1843.

MR. PUTNAM—SIR—I have shipped one quarter barrel of the *Insect and Worm Destroyer* for you, and another for Messrs. Breck & Co.

I ask you to accept of these, with a view that you shall experiment with them, and see whether the article will be



equally efficient in the destruction of bugs and worms with you as it is with us. Mere accident brought about the discovery, and if my conjectures as to the extent of its efficacy are correct, I think it will prove among the greatest blessings to the farmer and gardener, which have been brought to light in these days.

Ask Mr. Breck to try the article, and if it proves satisfactory, he may advertise it for sale as agent, and I will send to him any quantity he may order.

In haste, respectfully,  
A. DEY,  
43 Liberty St., New York.

The following printed card accompanied the above letter:

**Insect and Worm Destroyer.**—A powerful poison was discovered last year, which will destroy bugs, flies, worms, and animalculæ of every description that infests cucumber, melon, and other vines. It was tried with entire success last year on cucumber and melon vines. The experiment was made by putting a small quantity of the powder poison into a sieve, then holding it over the hill and giving it one blow with the hand; a portion of the bugs took flight immediately, and next morning the ground was covered with the dead, which had apparently come out of the earth. It is a warranted article, and if it does not answer on vines, the money will be returned. It is believed to be a specific remedy against insects of every description, and will destroy those that infest shrubs, flowers and plants, cabbages, turnips, and vegetables of ever description, the worm which destroys the corn in the ground, that infests the peach and plum tree, the Hessian fly; and in fact it is certain death to any insect or worm with which it comes in contact and at the same time will not injure vegetation.

It is made by the Lodi Manufacturing Company, and may be had at their factory on the Hackensack river or at the office of the company, No. 43 Liberty street, New York city. The price of one barrel, \$2; half barrel \$1.50; quarter barrel, \$1—delivered on board any vessel in the city of New-York free of expense.—N. E. Farmer.

**SILK.**—Dr. Chas. Stuart, of Breckinridge county, Ky., exhibited to us yesterday 500 skeins of sewing silk manufactured in his family. It is of various colors, and is pronounced in all respects a superior article. The dying was done by his wife, and the colors are bright and fast. Dr. Stuart and Mr. Byrum, of Brandenburg, have done much for the introduction of the silk culture on the southern Ohio border of Kentucky, as a part of the ordinary domestic industry of small farmers.

Wherever a patriotic and enterprising gentleman establishes a cocoonery, the neighbors flock in to see the operation of breeding and feeding the worms, and of reeling and spinning the silk; and they are surprised to find that the whole matter is as simple as certain, and as much within the means of the humblest farmer, as the production of a patch of flax, threshing out the seed, and breaking, hackling, and spinning the flax. Many, when they see all this with their own eyes, immediately commence the business, especially the poor and those who have females and children that can make nothing at anything else. It is the opinion of Dr. Stuart that the culture of silk is now permanently established as one branch of National domestic industry, and that it will, in a short time, be as common as the culture of flax now is in the West. There are few farmers of the poorer class that could not, without interference with their farming operations or their present domestic economy, produce from forty to a hundred dollars worth of silk a year—an amount which would be so much clear gain.—Louisville Jour.

**TIME FOR CUTTING TIMBER.**—Many persons finding that timber cut in the spring is not durable, have been careful to cut at a season as far from that as possible, and acting on this principle, the fall or first of the winter has been fixed upon as a good time for this purpose.—But so far as experiments have been made, they generally show that June is the best time for cutting timber, provided the bark be taken off, and this can be done conveniently at this season. In June the sap is passing into the leaves, and after becoming elaborated into suitable juices for the forming of wood, it is returning and forming a new layer of wood between the wood and bark. This sap causes a rapid decay of wood if the bark remain on, but when the bark is taken off the wood seasons very fast, and as the sap has been constantly passing into the leaves, there will be but little in the wood to cause its decay.

A 'Jack at all trades' who had used timber for more than twenty years, for various purposes, which had been cut at different seasons, remarked that timber cut in June was harder, heavier, and more durable than that cut at any other season. When the tree is in its greatest vigor the sap is thin and rapidly passing through the wood, and if the tree be then cut and peeled, the sap will readily escape through the pores of the wood. But in the winter and spring, the sap contained in the tree is thick, having been prepared the previous year and reserved to commence the new growth. This thick sap will not so readily escape, but remains stagnant in the timber and becomes the principle of its destruction.

A gentleman who has been considerably engaged in ship building informed us that he had used in the same vessel, timber cut at different seasons, and that cut in June was the most durable. Numerous experiments in cutting timber for ships and other purposes show the same results.—Boston Cul.

**JERUSALEM ARTICHOKE.**—Last winter I procured two bushels of Jerusalem artichokes from Nashville. I was pressed with my crop and did not plant them until May, (which is too late for the best, March is the proper month,) and plowed them twice, and the hoe was not in them during the season. And from the amount I have dug, I have no doubt but that I raised two hundred and fifty bushels, from a half an acre, and the ground was as poor as any I had in cultivation, and had been tended seven years—producing six crops of corn during that period. And after having disposed of all that I could, by selling and planting, I had some few bushels left, which I fed to my milch cows, and found that they eat them greedily; as this was late in the spring, I was unable to make any experiment in feeding, the quantity, the best mode of preparing them, &c. and its effects as it respects the quantity and quality of the milk produced. I would therefore solicit, through the medium of your paper, information touching those points. As I have no doubt than when fully tried, they will be found to be a valuable food for cattle as well as hogs.

Woakley Co. Ten. May, 1843.

R. W. GARDNER.

Tenn. Agr.

**Duckology.**—The following, from the Boston Cultivator, may be of service to some of our duck-raising friends—some of whom have not been very successful in the business.

#### ON RAISING DUCKS.

Young ducks are very tender, and many are lost by their being exposed to water in their early age. If ducks are only allowed water enough to drink, and that under such arrangement that they cannot get into it, until they pass their tender age, say till six or eight weeks old, much better success would doubtless attend this business. Large numbers have been raised without water to swim in, and care was taken to keep them dry, and they have had no diseases, and the losses have been small, scarcely any dying unless by accident.

We are aware that some are opposed to this practice, and will name instances in which they have allowed young ducks to run in the water, and yet they have been remarkably successful, raising all that were hatched. But as some have had much the best success in raising without water, and have made experiments on an extensive scale, raising 6 or 700, their opinions are entitled to much respect, and more experiments should be made on the dry plan. Will our readers who try it, let us know the result.

Ducks should have a liberal share of animal food, of which they are very fond, and their principal object in going into water seems to be to obtain this kind of food, as they are constantly searching for it. Frogs, cut or pounded fine, are very acceptable food, and cost nothing but a little time in catching them. Some will say that it is wicked to kill the poor harmless frogs. Do such consider it right to kill the innocent calves and lambs to gratify their own appetites, or to encourage the butcher in his work of destruction?

#### SOAP MAKING.

As soap making is a matter of no small interest to every house keeper, a few suggestions on the process of manufacturing will be of utility. Soap, as every one knows, is made of alkali and fat or oil of almost any kind. Although grease and ley are common in every kitchen, yet few can combine them with accuracy; and frequently

much more labor is bestowed, than is necessary. The first consideration is the obtaining a sufficient quantity of alkali. This requires good wood, green is best, and if it be cut in the winter or while the sap is down, the ley will be much stronger. Old rotten wood should not be burnt when the ashes are to be used for ley.

The ashes being ready, put them into a hogshead, barrel or old fashioned hopper, and put on water till the strength is exhausted.—Next commence boiling to evaporate the water, and concentrate the potash. To be assured there is enough potash, make a trial with an egg. If the egg is supported, all is right, but if it sinks to the bottom, the boiling must be continued.

But often it occurs that the ley is sufficiently strong and yet soap cannot be made. This is generally owing to the fact, that the potash of the ley is not sufficiently caustic, or capable of corroding the skin. This lack of causticity is owing to the existence of too much carbonic acid, in combination with the potash. To prevent this, use the ashes fresh, or before the acid is absorbed. The cure for the evil is quick. It has a greater affinity for carbonic acid than potash, and if a half bushel unslacked lime be placed at the bottom of the hogshead of ashes, the ley will be free from the acid. The proper causticity will be shown by dipping a feather into the ley, while boiling. If the more delicate parts are consumed, the ley is ready for the oil. The fat should be as clean as possible. The proportion of fat should be about three pounds to one gallon of the alkali. The fat of course is to be put in while boiling and the whole should be constantly stirred, till the soap is finished.

**Hard Soap** is made by adding salt to soft soap while boiling. Tallow soap is perhaps the best but too expensive for common use. The Windsor soap is made of tallow and potash, scented with caraway seed. Butter, lard and the finer oils are used for making the fancy toilet soaps.—Tennessee Agriculturist.

#### CONVENTION OF BREEDERS.

(CIRCULAR)

Albany, June, 1843.

The State Agricultural Society of New York, desirous that some fixed principles should be established as the basis of excellence in the various descriptions of farm-stock, (without reference to their relative merits as breeds,) have appointed the undersigned a committee, with instructions to call the particular attention of breeders throughout the States to the importance of the subject, and to make necessary arrangements for a Convention to be held at the Library Room of the American Institute, in the city of New York, during its 16th Annual Fair, in the month of October next, the day to be hereafter noticed; at which breeders of stock and those interested in Agriculture are most respectfully urged to give their attendance, with a view to a full and free discussion of those forms, qualities, and properties which most conduce to intrinsic value; and, also, that the distinctive characteristics of each separate breed may be as closely defined as possible.

The Society believe that the decision of such a meeting will offer to the agriculturists the best information that can at present be elicited, and which, they trust, may be so satisfactory to the mind of every intelligent breeder, as to lead to greater uniformity of action and opinion, and possibly become a standard with them, by which to judge and be judged, in all cases of competition.

With these views of the subject, the committee hope you may deem it of sufficient importance to be present at the proposed Convention, and lend to its discussion the aid of your experience and talents.

The committee will be obliged by any suggestions, in the interim, you may consider of sufficient importance to be communicated to them in relation to this subject.

FRANCIS ROTCH, C. N. BEMENT,  
E. P. PRENTICE, GEORGE VAIL,  
LEWIS F. ALLEN.

**CROPS IN PIKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS.**—Our wheat crop in this county, this year, is almost a total failure—there will not be enough for seed, should everything mature that is now on the ground. I had 68 acres myself, all of which I plow up for other grain—nor am I alone. Wheat has risen, within a few weeks, from 25 to 50 cts.; and the prospect is, that by harvest, it will be worth \$1.

Perry, Pike co. Ill., May 20, 1843. *Prairie Far.*



**ICE-CREAM.**—To two quarts of milk add three beaten eggs, stir them together, and place over a fire till brought by stirring and a gentle heat to the consistence of cream. When warm add a table-spoonful of diluted arrow-root or starch, then sweeten, and flavor to your taste with lemon, peach-leaves, or vanilla, and set by to cool. When cold, pour the cream into a small pail, which insert in a larger one, well covered on the bottom with ice, and sprinkled with salt. Put ice in the space between the pails, and add salt to it as before. As the mixture freezes, stir it occasionally, till all is equally frozen. The above is improved by using half cream. If you flavor with peach-leaves or cinnamon, put them over to warm (not boil) with the milk, then strain before adding the sugar. The ice must be put into the form after it is thoroughly congealed.

A LADY.  
*American Agriculturist.*

#### BALTIMORE MARKET, June 20, 1843.

##### PROVISIONS—

Beef, Balt. mess, \$10 1/2	Butter, Glades, No. 1,
Do. do. No. 1, 9 1/2	Do. do. 2,
Do. prime, 11 1/2	Do. do. 3,
Pork, mess, 11 1/2	Do. Western, 2, 7 1/2
Do. No. 1, 10 1/2	Do. do. 3, 6 1/2
Do. prime, 9 1/2	Lard, Balt. kegs, 1, 6 1/2
Do. cargo, 8 1/2	Do. do. 2, none
Bacon, hams, Ba. lb. 8 1/2	Do. Western, 1, 7 1/2
Do. middlings, 6 1/2	Do. do. 2,
Do. shoulders, 5 1/2	Do. do. bbls 1,
Do. asst'd, West. 5 1/2	Cheese, casks, 6 1/2
Do. hams, 6 1/2	Do. boxes, 6 1/2
Do. middlings, 5 1/2	Do. extra, 10 1/2
Do. shoulders, 4 1/2	

##### COTTON—

Virginia, 6 a 7	Tennessee, lb.
Upland, 6 a 7 1/2	Alabama, 6 1/2 a 8
Louisiana, 6 1/2 a 8	Florida, 7 a 7 1/2
North Carolina, 7 a	Mississippi 7 1/2 a

##### LUMBER—

Georgia Flooring, 12a15	Joists & Sc'ling, W.P. 7a10
S. Carolina do, 9a11	Joists & Sc'ling, Y.P. 7a10
White Pine, pann' 125a27	Shingles, W. P. 2a9
Common, 20a22	Shingles, ced'r, 3.00a9.00
Select Cullings, 14a16	Laths, sawed, 1.25a 1.75
Common do, 8a10	Laths, split, 50a 1.00

##### PLASTER PARIS—

Cargo, pr ton cash 2.87a	Ground per bbl. 1.00a
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##### MOLASSES—

Havana, 1st qu. gl 16 1/2	New Orleans, 20 1/2
Porto Rico, 21a23	Guadaloupe & Mart 19a
English Island, 28a36	Sugar House,

##### TOBACCO—

Common, 2 1/2 a 3 1/2	Yellow, 7 a 9
Brown and red, 4 a 5	Fine yellow, 7 1/2 a 10
Ground leaf, 6 a 7	Virginia, 4 a 9
Fine red, 6 1/2 a 8	Rappahannock, 3 a 7
Wrappery, suitable for segars, 8a13	St. Domingo, 13 a 11
Yellow and red, 7a10	Cuba, 15 a 38

##### WOOL—

WASHED.	UNWASHED.
Saxony, 33a35	Saxony and Merino 16a18
Full Merino, 30a33	Common, to 1/2 blood, 14a17
3-4 blood do, 27a30	Pulled, Mid. to good 3 1/2 a 6; good 6 1/2 a; and fine 8 a 12; infr. and com. sorts are dull and can only be sold at a reduction from former prices, say 2.50a3, a little bringing as high as 3.50.
1-2 do do, 24a27	Ohio tobacco is also brisk, and sales are readily effected at full prices: com. to vid. 3a4.50; good 5a6; fine 6a7; and 6 1/2 a 10.
1-4 and common, 18a20	
Tub washed, 18a20	

##### SUGARS—

Hav. wh. 100lbs 7.50a9.00	St. Croix, 100lbs 5.00a7.00
Do. brown 6.25a7.00	Brazil, white, 7.00a8.00
Porto Rico, 5.00a7.50	Do. brown, New Orleans, 4.50a6.25
	Lump, lb. c.

##### COFFEE—

Havana, 7 a 8	Java, lb. 10 a 13
P. Rico & Laguay, 7 1/2 a 8	Rio, 7 1/2 a 8
St. Domingo, 6 a 6 1/2	Triago, 5 a 7

##### SOAP—

Baltimore white, 12a14	North'n, br'n & yel. 3 1/2 a 4 1/2
"brown & yell'w 4 1/2 a 5 1/2	

##### CANDLES—

Mould, common, 9a10	Sperm, 24a25
Do. choice brands, 10 1/2	Wax, 60a65
Dipped, 8a 9	

##### FEATHERS—

perlb.	22a25
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##### RAISINS—

Malaga bunch, box,	1 60a1 6 1/2
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##### FLOUR—

Superfine How. st., from stores, bl.	\$5.12 a
Do. City Mills,	5.50 a
Do. Susquehanna,	5.25a5.37
Rye, first,	3.12
Corn Meal, kiln dried, per bbl.	2.37 a 2 62
Do. per hhd.	12 a 12.25

##### GRAIN—

Wheat, white, p bu. 122	Peas, black eye, 75
"best Pa. red 119a120	Clover seed, store 3.50a3.75
"ord. to pri. Md 95a112	Timothy do 1.87a2.25
Corn, white, 54a55	Flaxseed, rough st. p. 1.25
"yellow Md. 54a	Chop'd Rye, 100 lbs. 1.25
Rye, Pa. 63a	Ship Stuff, bus. 20a22
Oats, Md. 27a28	Brown Stuff, 14a15
Beans, 100a	Shorts, bushel, 10a

#### A MARKET GARDENER WANTED.

One who can come well recommended, (and none other need apply) will find a good situation on application to S. SANDS, at the office of the American Farmer. je 21 31

OXEN—Two pair well broken, wanted—Apply as above.

#### HEAPS OF MANURE.

Constructed according to the newly discovered method by Baer & Gouffart, may be seen on the farms of Messrs W. Govane Howard, 1 mile above Govanestown, D. M. Perine, at Govanestown, Mr. Duvall, 23 miles on the Washington road, David Carlisle, 11 miles on the Green Spring branch of the Susquehanna Rail Road, Wm. Orndorff, 14 mile to the right of Hooktown, Abner Linthicum, 5 miles on the Annapolis road, just across Sweetser's bridge, David Stuart, 4 1/2 miles on the Bel-air road. The materials used were straw, corn shucks, stalks, and cobs, oak leaves, and generally all dry vegetable litter which was to be found on the farms.

Most of the heaps were put up in the coldest weather that we had last winter, commencing to heat in from 24 to 48 hours, and in 25 to 30 days were reduced to an entire mass of manure.

The chemical ingredients cost about \$4 to the thousand cart loads of manure; the second heap of same size would cost only 50 cts.

Farmers living in the neighborhood of any of the heaps are respectfully invited to call and see them, and learn from the gentlemen owning them, the efficacy, the cheapness and the manifold advantages of this plan.

For further information, apply to JOHN GOULIART, CHARLES BAER, living in Madison st. between Garden and Eutaw. may 31 31.

#### HARVEST TOOLS, THRESHING MACHINES, &c.

ROBERT S. NCLAIR, Jr. & Co. No. 60 Light st. Baltimore. Offer for sale at reduced prices,

Grain and Grass Scythes Wheat Fans, several most approved sizes and patterns  
Grass Scythes with hangings complete Scythes Stones, Rifles,  
Grain Cradles, wood braced Scythes Nibs and Rings  
do iron braced Cradlers' Hammers  
Sickles, German and American

#### HORSE POWERS for two or more horses

THRASHING MACHINES, made on the spike principle, very strong and durable

Straw Carriers to attach to do.

Those Thrashers and Horse Powers are now so generally used and approved of by farmers in Maryland, that it is scarcely necessary to say any thing in regard to their merits. Those however, who have not had an opportunity of seeing them in operation are referred to the following gentlemen who have our Thrashers and Powers in use, viz.

Col. Jno. Mercer, near Annapolis Henry Fite, Baltimore Co.  
Col. Boyle, do Dr. A. Tyson do  
B. D. Hall, do Moses Potter do  
Mr. Hopkins, do Jas. Rittenhouse do  
Wm. F. Rennoe and R. B. Posey, St. Mary's co.

About 350 more names can be given if required from gentlemen in different parts of this and other states, many of whom have been using our machines since 1818. R. S. Jr. & Co. may 31

#### HARVEST TOOLS.

JONA. S. EASTMAN, Pratt street, has in store, Wolf's superior Pennsylvania made Grain Cradles, Grain and Grass Scythes, warranted superior quality.—Also, steel and wood Hay Forks; Hay Rakes, of different qualities; Grass Seeds; Weeding Hoes, Spades and Shovels. Chopping Axes, &c. &c.

Likewise Thrashing Machines and Horse Powers, for two or four horses, equal to any machines of the kind in use. Also, on hand, a large supply of his superior patent Cylindrical Straw Cutters, at reduced prices, both for the wood and iron frames; Corn Shellers; Corn and Tobacco Cultivator, plain and expanding, and of superior quality. His stock of PLOUGHS on hand is extensive, embracing a great variety of all sizes, with cast and wrought iron shares, including his newly invented patent and premium PLOUGH, with iron beam, and self sharpening point, greatly simplified. His stock of Plough Castings, on hand is also large, and of superior quality, superior as he believes to any ever before made in this State. He has patterns that are highly approved for Horsepowers and Thrashing Machines, from which he will furnish castings on reasonable terms, to those that wish to manufacture those Machines.

The above named articles will be sold at wholesale and retail for cash, or approved city acceptances, at prices to suit the exigencies of the times.

In store, Landreth's superior Garden SEEDS, of last year's growth. ma 22

#### MILLWRIGHTING, PATTERN & MACHINE MAKING

By the subscriber, York, near Light st. Baltimore, who is prepared to execute orders in the above branches of business at the shortest notice, and warrants all mills, &c. planned and executed by him to operate well.

Murray's Corn and Cob Crushers for hand power \$25  
Do. by horse power, from 6 to 12 bushels per hour, \$35 to 40  
Corn Shellers, shelling from 30 to 300 bushels an hour, 15 to 75  
Portable and Stationary Horse Powers 75 to 150  
Self-sharpening hand Mills. a superior article, 12 to 20  
Cylinder Straw and Oat cutters, 2 knives, 20 a 35  
Mill, carry l-g, and other Screws, 2 small Steam Engines 3 to 4 horse power. Any other machines built to order.  
Patent rights for sale for the Endless Carriage for gang Saw Mills, a good invention.

Orders for crushers can be left with any of the following agents: Thos. Denny, Seedsman, Baltimore; J. F. Callan, Washington, D. C.; Calvin Wing, Norfolk; S. Sands, Farmer office; or the subscriber, JAS. MURRAY, Millwright, Baltimore. may 28

#### SOUTH DOWN SHEEP FOR SALE.

Two Rams and two Ewes of the purest South Down breed of Sheep. These Sheep were brought from England to Maryland in the autumn of 1840, by Dr. Macaulay, and the following testimonials will show the pedigree and exceeding purity of the blood.

The South Down Sheep were purchased for Dr. Macaulay of Baltimore, at the request of James Alexander Esq. of Somer Hill, England, by his agent, Mr. Thomas Waters of Stratford, Subcastle, Salisbury. They were part of the flock of Mr. Northeast, of Tedworth Wiltshire. Mr. Waters in a letter to Dr. Macaulay, says, "I have much pleasure in informing you that I have selected a Ram for you which I consider of the purest South Down breed, and have this morning received a letter, from the same person I bought the Ram of, to say, he has selected six Ewes for me, from his own stock, also,—he is the first breeder we have in this part of the country, and probably in any other part of England, of the purest South Down blood. The price of the Ram No. 16, is thirty guineas, and the six Ewes forty five shillings each, which I consider moderate."

The following is Mr. Northeast's letter to Mr. Waters, on the Pedigree of the Ram and Ewes purchased from him.

Tedworth, Sept. 14th, 1840.

My dear Sir.—I have this morning looked out for you six Ewes, which I think match well, and will please you. Four of them are six toothed and two are two toothed, and the Ram No. 16, will look like one of the family. No. 16 was bred from one of my best Ewes, and the Ewe having two, bred both up to weaning time. He was got by Mr. Ellman's No. 15, which was let this year by auction at sixty three guineas, and is considered the best sheep in England; he is now hired by Lord Huntingfield and Mr. Crips of Gedgrove.

For the last few years I have averaged my Ewes cull and best at 41s. 6d. that is, best at 42 and rest at 40s. each, and I trust you will not think I overcharge you by naming 45s. each, for the 6 best, as I shall expect to get about 42 for those left.

I remain, my dear sir, yours very truly,

THOMAS B. NORTHEAST.

Mr. Thomas Waters,

Stratford Sub-castle.

The Rams or Ewes will be sold separate or together, at the wish of the purchaser. For a view of the sheep, or terms, apply to JACOB WOLFF, Esq. at this farm, adjoining Randall's town near the Liberty Road.

Price of a last spring's ram \$25—Ewe 15 is 19

#### BERKSHIRE PIGS.

The subscriber offers for sale Berkshire Pigs, 2 to 4 months old, from the piggery of Messrs. Gorsuch, and others of the best breeders in Maryland, at \$12 1-2 deliverable in this city, or \$15 caged with feed for any port on the coast of the U.S. m 23 S. SANDS

#### DEVON CATTLE.

The undersigned has a herd of about five and twenty full blood North Devon Cattle, embracing all ages and both sexes, which have been selected and bred with care for several years past, and being overstocked would dispose of a part of them. Orders for any of them will meet with attention. Address

JOHN P. E. STANLEY,

No. 50 S. Calvert St. Baltimore.

#### FOR SALE.

A handsome thorough bred DURHAM BULL, about 6 or 7 months old, from very superior stock. Price \$65, deliverable in Baltimore—Apply to SAM. SANDS.

#### TO FARMERS.

The subscriber has for sale at his Plaster and Bone Mill on Hughes street, south side of the Basin, GROUND PLASTER, GROUND BONES, OYSTER SHELL & STONE LIME, and LEACHED ASHES, all of the best quality for agricultural purposes, and at prices to suit the times.

Vessels loading at his wharf with any of the above articles, will not be subject to charges for dockage or wharfage fe 23 WM. TREGO, Baltimore.

#### POUDRETTE.

PRICES REDUCED for this valuable fertilizer.

The New York Poudrette Company, having enlarged their works have now on hand a good supply of a first rate article, which they offer in parcels of ten barrels or more at \$1.50 per barrel, or three barrels for \$5—delivered on board of vessels.

Orders, enclosing the cash, will be promptly attended to if addressed to

D. K. MINOR,

118 Nassau street, N. Y.

N. B. The farmers of Maryland, who reside near navigable water, will do well to enquire into the value of Poudrette as a manure. Those who have used it need no argument in relation to its value—and the best evidence which those, who have not used it, can have is to procure a few barrels and apply it to their Corn, Tobacco, Melons, &c.—Seeing is believing. feb. 1

The subscriber is Agent for the above Company, and will receive and forward orders for Poudrette, at the prices named above; cost of freight and any other necessary expenses being added. The cash in all instances to be paid when the order is left. Gentlemen in the country who cannot receive it direct from N. York, will have it forwarded from this port in any manner they may direct. feb. 1 SAM. SANDS.

#### THE SUBSCRIBER,

Who exhibited the Corn and Cob Crusher and Grinder at the Agricultural meeting, having rented the Wheelwright & Blacksmith shop with the water power attached in the village of Franklin, will continue to build his Corn and Cob Crushers and Grinders, and has so improved them that persons who have not got horse powers can use them by hand power with sufficient facility to supply the wants of small farms, and with one or two horse powers can do more work than any other machine for the same purpose—that will require double the power. This is not puffing, for it can be and has been made manifest. The price of the crusher is \$40. au 24 WM. MURRAY, Franklin, Balt. co. Md



## DURHAM BULL AND BERKSHIRE BOAR.

**FOR SALE.**—A two years old Durham Bull of beautiful figure and fashionable blood, being out of a very high bred herd book cow and got by BEMENT'S celebrated Bull Astoria. An animal of finer form or temper cannot be found. He will be sold at the extremely low price of \$150.

Also, a two years old Berkshire Boar,—a fine animal, selected from the piggery of C. N. Bement—Price \$15.  
Apply at the office of the American Farmer.

June 14

## D. O. PROUTY,

Manufacturer of Agricultural Implements, No. 176 Market street, Philadelphia, above 5th, south side, has constantly for sale on reasonable terms, an extensive assortment of Farming Implements, of the latest and most approved Patterns, among which are Prouty & Meigs Patent Centre Draught Self-sharpening Ploughs, Subsoil and Side Hill Ploughs, Cultivators—Corn Shellers—Hay and Straw Cutters—Grain Fans—Corn Plasters—Harrows, Chee-Presses—Apple Presses—Churns—Grain Cradles—Corn Crushers—Dirt Scrapers—Hoes, Shovels, Spades, &c. Books on Agriculture, Horticulture and Rural Affairs also Garden, Grass and Flour Seeds for sale at wholesale and retail, very low for cash.

may 17 1m  
176 Market st., Philadelphia.



## BARNABY &amp; MOOERS' PATENT SIDE-HILL &amp; LEVEL LAND PLOUGH.

To which was been awarded the following and Several other Premiums, viz.—By the American Institute, at their Ploughing Match at Newark, N. J. 1842, the First Premium, a Silver Cup—and at their Annual Ploughing-Match for 1841, at Sing Sing, N. Y. a Gold Medal for the best work done, lightest draught, and best principle of construction.—answering for "general purposes." The N. York State Agricultural Society, awarded it an Extra Premium of \$50, at their Annual Ploughing Match at Syracuse for 1841.

The following are its advantages over the Common Plough, viz.—1st. Ease of Draught—2d. Perfection of Work—3d. Strength and Durability—4th. All Dead Furrows may be prevented, as the Furrows can all be turned one way—5th. Any width of Furrows may be turned, between 8 inches, by moving the catches in the cross-piece towards the handles for a wide Furrow,—and towards the centre for a narrow one—6th. Placing the beam in the centre of the cross-piece, makes it a "Double Mould-Board Plough," turning a Furrow both ways at the same time,—answering for Green-Ridging, Ploughing between Corn and Potatoes, or any any crop cultivated in rows or drills,—and for Digging Potatoes.

The subscribers having purchased the Right to Manufacture the above celebrated Ploughs, for the State of Maryland, are now prepared to furnish Farmers with the same,—and they pledge themselves to the Public, to manufacture this Plough in the Very Best Manner, both as to materials and workmanship. All Orders will be thankfully received and punctually attended to.

Price as Follows, (adding Transportation).—No. 2, 45lb. at \$7. No. 3, wt. 70 lbs. \$10.—No. 4, 80 lbs. \$11.—No. 5, 90 lbs. \$12. Extra edge, 50 Cents. For Cutter, if added, laid with steel, \$1.50. Wheel, \$1.50. Shin Pieces, 12 Cents.

DEN EAD & DANIELS, corner Monument and North-sts. who have purchased Mott & Co's interest, are now sole owners. B. H. WILSON, No. 52, Calvert st. 1 door below Lombard, is Agent for the sale of the above Plough. Baltimore, Nov 23. 1842



## PEACH AND PEAR TREES.



The subscriber is prepared to supply Peach Trees of the choicest kinds, surpassed by none in the U. States, and of the earliest to the latest kinds, which he is enabled to sell at the very low rate of 12 1/2 cents per tree, if packed an extra charge.

He can also supply a few very choice Pear Trees at 50 cts. per tree—and in the Fall will be able to furnish any quantity required of many kinds.

Catalogues furnished on application at the Farmer office. Entire reliance may be placed on the genuineness of these trees, and of their being of the choicest kinds. ap 12 S. SANDS.

## LIME FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

Having accumulated a large stock of first quality Oyster Shell Lime, at my kilns on the Potomac River, I beg leave to say to the Farmers and Planters generally, and more especially to those who are anxious to improve their lands, and have been deterred from doing so by the scarcity of money and low prices of their produce, that I will sell them lime delivered on board of vessels at the kilns, either at Lancaster's Tide Mill, near the mouth of the Wicomico River; Lower Cedar Point, or Pickewaxin Creek, at 6 Cents per bushel, payable March 1st, 1844, (if ordered, deliverable between this date and 1st of August next,) or I will deliver it on the above terms, charging in addition the customary freight, which must in all cases be cash. Orders addressed to me, at Millers Hill Post Office, Charles County, Md., will receive prompt attention from

ja 25

WM. M. DOWNING.

6m

## WOOL, WOOL, WOOL.

The subscribers respectfully inform the farmers of Maryland, that they are now manufacturing

Best twill'd Kersey, 3-4 wide, 33 1-3c. pr yd. 12 to 16 oz. clean wool is required  
Striped linsey for women, 1 1-4 do. 33 1-3 do. 8 to 10 do do do  
Unfull'd kersey for men, 1 1-4 do. 23c. do. 12 oz. do do do  
Coarse Cloth, all wool, 3-4 do. 41c do. 1 1-4 lb. do do do  
Carpeting, a new and elegant style, 62 1-2c. do. 1 1-8 lb. do do do  
When the yarn is sent doubled and twisted, 44c.

Fine Cloth for gentlemen's wear, 3-4, 75c. 1lb.  
Blankets, all wool, 1 1-8 yd. wide, 37 1-2c. pr yd. 1 to 1 1-4 do do

Customers will send their wool to their agent in Baltimore, and write to us respecting it, care of Wells Chase, No 5 South Eutaw street, Baltimore. Refer to Messrs. Neal & Luckett, and Battee & Lowe, Baltimore; Col. Edw. Lloyd E S; Jas. Kent, esq. A. A. co.

je 14 3t

JAMES MITCHELL & CO.  
of the firm of Owings & Mitchell.

## AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY &amp; IMPLEMENTS.

The subscriber begs leave to assure the public that he is prepared to execute orders for any of his agricultural or other machinery or implements with promptness. His machinery is so well known that it is unnecessary to describe the various kinds, but merely annex names and prices:

Portable Saw Mill with 12 ft. carriage, and 24 ft. ways and 4 ft. saw. \$300  
Extra saws for shingles, with 3 pair of head blocks, 125  
Post Morticing Auger, 15  
Bands, 10  
Horse Power of great strength, 200  
Corn and Cob Crusher, wt. 600 lb. 65  
Thrashing Machine, wt. 300 lb. 75  
Corn Planter, wt. 100 lb. 25  
Thrashing Machine, wt. 600 lb. 150  
Grist Mill, 2 1/2 ft. cogwheels, 150  
Do. 3 ft. do. 175

Belts for the same, 15  
Post Auger, wt. 15 lbs. 5  
Tobacco Press complete, portable, 85  
Portable Steam Engine, with portable Saw Mill and cutting off Saw, 3500

Large Sawing and Planing Machine with cutting off saw, or cross cutting for arge establishments, 1100

If made of iron, 3000

Large Boring and Morticing machine for large establishments 150

Tenoning Machine 200

Vertical Saw 125

Small Morticing Machine, suitable for carpenters, 25

All of which articles are made in the most superior style of workmanship, of the best materials, and warranted to answer the purposes for which they are intended. It cannot be expected that the subscriber can speak of the merits of the above enumerated articles within the compass of an advertisement. Suffice it to say, that each have found numerous purchasers, and proved entirely satisfactory. The Portable Saw Mill with a 10-horse power engine, can cut, with perfect ease, 10,000 feet of lumber a day, and, if necessary, could greatly exceed that quantity.

GEORGE PAGE,

West Baltimore, Baltimore, Md.

pamphlets containing cuts with descriptions of the above named machines, can be had on application (if by letter post paid) to the subscriber, or to Mr. S. Sands, at the office of the American Farmer. sep 1 tf

## MINGO CHIEF.

Will make his second season in Maryland, and be let to Mares at the Farm of Mr. J. P. E. STANLEY, 4 miles from Baltimore, on the Frederick road, at Eight Dollars for each mare.

MINGO CHIEF is 6 years old this spring, near 15 hands high, of a rich brown color, perfectly formed for speed and action, goes all gaits naturally, and is very fast under the saddle.

Mingo Chief was got by an Indian horse well known at Montreal as "La Belle Poney", (grand sire of the famous trotting horse Bepo, and many other celebrated trotters and racers;) that in his prime has racked his mile in 2-30, and altho' upwards of 20 years old, is still kept for mares in Canada.

The dam of Mingo Chief was pure Canadian, and could trot a mile in 3 minutes without training. Mingo Chief was selected during the summer of 1841, in the neighborhood of Montreal (by a gentleman experienced in these matters,) as being the best horse he could find to cross upon the stock of this part of the country for the production of saddle horses. The celebrated Morgan breed of Vermont is said to be of the same cross.

Season commenced 1st April and ends 1st July.  
ap 26 E. WEEKS, Manager.

## MARTINEAU'S IRON HORSE-POWER

The above cut represents this horse-power, for which the subscriber is proprietor of the patent-right for Maryland, Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Virginia; and he would most respectfully urge upon those wishing to obtain a horse power, to examine this before purchasing elsewhere; for beauty, compactness and durability it has never been surpassed.

Thrashing Machines, Wheat Fans Cultivators, Harrows and the common hand Corn Sheller constantly on hand, and for sale at the lowest prices.

Agricultural Implements of any peculiar model made to order as the shorest notice.

Castings for all kind of ploughs, constantly on hand by the pound or ton. A liberal discount will be made to country merchants who purchase to sell again.

Mr. Hussey manufactures his reaping machines at this establishment. R. B. CHENOWETH, corner of Front & Ploughman sts. near Baltimore st. Bridge, or No 20 Pratt street. Baltimore, mar 31, 1841

## HUSSEY'S REAPING MACHINE.

Farmers are respectfully requested to send their orders as soon as they shall have decided on procuring machines to cut the next year's crop: by doing so, they will enable the subscriber to make preparations early in year with confidence, so that none may be disappointed at harvest time, as has been the case for several years past by delaying to apply for them in season. His former practice will be steadily adhered to of making no more machines than are ordered, lest a failure of the next years crop should leave a large number on his hands, unsold, which his circumstances will not allow. It is hoped that the great success which has attended the machines made for the last harvest will remove every doubt of their great value. Several persons have cut as high as 20 acres in a day with the last improved machines, while one gentleman with one of the old machines cut his entire crop of 72 acres in less than five days, without having a cradle in the field.

The greatest objection ever made to the machine was its heavy bearing on the shaft horse; this has been entirely removed by adding a pair of forward wheels to support the front of the machine, and a driver's seat at an extra expense of 20 dollars.

## CORN &amp; COB CRUSHER

The subscriber's Corn & Cob crusher which obtained the first premium over several competitors at the late Fair of the N. York State Agricultural Society held at Albany, N. Y. and is so highly recommended in the public prints, by farmers who have used them, will be kept constantly on hand for sale.

no 9

OBED HUSSEY

## BENTLEY'S AGRICULTURAL STEAM GENERATOR

MANUFACTURED BY BENTLEY, RANDALL &amp; Co.,

Manufacturers of Bentley's Convuluted Steam Boilers, Baltimore, Md. for steaming Corn Stalks, Hay, Potatoes, Boiling water, &c. It is also highly recommended to Tanners for steaming Leaches, also for various manufacturing and mechanical purposes, where steam or large quantities of hot water is required. This article is made wholly of iron, and was got up expressly to meet the wants of the Agricultural community, and it is confidently believed that for simplicity, durability, economy in money, fuel, time, and room combined its equal has not been offered to the public. It possesses all the principles of the most approved Tubular Locomotive Boilers, for saving of fuel, while the construction is such that one of equal size, strength and durability that has heretofore cost \$100, or more, is now offered at \$45. It is operated equally well with Anthracite coal as with wood, and can be removed by two persons at pleasure.—Prices No. 1 \$45, considered of capacity enough for ordinary Farm purposes; No. 2 \$60, No. 3 \$75.

BENTLEY, RANDALL &amp; Co.

McCausland's Brewery, Holiday, st. near Pleasant.

We have the liberty of referring to the following gentlemen, viz:—David Barnum, Esq. City Hotel; Captain Jackson, warden of the Maryland Penitentiary, and Doct. Robt Dorsey of Edw., where they can be seen in operation.

Agents, J. F. Callan, Esq. Washington City; Capt. John Brooks, Upper Marlboro', Prince Georges' Co. Md. where samples can be seen. For numerous testimonials in favor of the above call on the manufacturers or their agents.

N. B. B. R. & Co., are also agents for Murray's Corn and Cob Crushers. Balto. Md., Dec. 1842.  
de 7

## LIME—LIME.

The subscriber is prepared to furnish any quantity of Oyster Shell or Stone Lime of a very superior quality at short notice at their Kilns at Spring Garden, near the foot of Eutaw street Baltimore, and upon as good terms as can be had at any other establishment in the State.

He invites the attention of farmers and those interested in the use of the article, and would be pleased to communicate any information either verbally by or letter. The Kilns being situated immediately upon the water, vessels can be loaded very expeditiously. N. B. Wood received in payment at market price.  
ap. 22 3m E. J. COOPER.

## PRICES TO SUIT THE TIMES.

A. G. MOTT & Co. corner of Forest and Enoch sts., and corner of Wood st. and Bowly's wharf, manufacture and have for sale Agricultural Implements of various kinds—consisting in part of WHEAT FANS, GRAIN CHADLES, SCYTHES, MOWING SNEATHS, CORN SHELLERS, HAY & STRAW CUTTING MACHINES, CORN & TOBACCO Cultivators with wrought and cast lines, or hoes; the castings of the N. York composition metal. The celebrated endless chain Horse power & Thresher, single and double shovel ploughs, Harrows of various kinds.—Also a variety of Ploughs among which, being the only agents in this State, is the renowned WILEY, the castings for which are from the North, and are the best and most durable in the country, one share wearing as long as two of the Baltimore make. At the great Ploughing Match, during the last annual meeting of the Baltimore County Agricultural Society, the WILEY took the sweepstake, by acclamation, having for competitors, ploughs from the different factories in this city,—also from Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio, among which was the Messrs. Witherow & Pearce's Cycloidal Plough of Gettysburg, Pa. This Plough is so constructed that with it the farmer is his own smith. The double pointed shear is confined to the mould-board by a cap—the shear when one point wears dull, can be reversed by unscrewing the cap and throwing out the other point. The prices for the No. 3, a 7 inch seeding plough, \$4.50—No. 4, an 8 inch; \$5.25—No. 56, a 10 inch, \$8—No. 76, \$9—No. 84, 10. The following practical farmers residing in Baltimore Co. are a few of those who use the WILEY ploughs exclusively, and pronounce them the cheapest and best which they have ever used, viz:

Hon. J. T. H. Worthington, Elisha Johnson,  
John Johns, Richard Johns,  
Thos. T. Griffith, Edward Philpot, &c.  
Also a choice selection of FIELD AND FLOWER SEEDS, which are warranted fresh and genuine. ml 29